

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00472 210152Z

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ACTION SY-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PER-05 /027 W

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R 210135Z MAR 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1529

MSG BATTALION HQUSMC WASHDC

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HONG KONG FOR RSS AND RMO FROM PSO AND NCOIC

DEPT FOR A/SY/FO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER ASEC

SUBJECT: MARITAL STATUS OF NCOIC

1. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF BOTH SINGLE AND MARRIED NCOIC'S AND RECOMMEND, ON BALANCE, THAT SGT. OSBORNE'S REPLACEMENT BE SINGLE.

2. THE DECISION IS NOT CLEAR CUT, BUT FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE FACTORS WE TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION IN MAKING THIS RECOMMENDATION.

A. THERE ARE NONE OF THE SPECTATOR SPORTS, ORGANIZED INTRA-MURAL SPORTS, TELEVISION, MOVIES, OR BRIGHT LIGHTS WHICH A SINGLE NCOIC MIGHT FIND DIVERTING.

B. ON THE OTHER HAND THERE ARE NO WOMEN'S CLUBS, SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS, WELFARE WORK, OR POSSIBILITY OF WORK AT USLO WHICH A WIFE MIGHT FIND INTERESTING.

C. THERE IS NO SOCIAL ACTIVITY WITH THE CHINESE. OUR SINGLE PERSONNEL TEND TO HAVE A MORE ACTIVE SOCIAL

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PAGE 02 PEKING 00472 210152Z

LIFE, AND THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE OF THE MARINES.

D. SCHOOLING: USLO PERSONNEL SEND THEIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN TO THE PAKISTAN EMBASSY SCHOOL IN THE MORNING AND SUPPLEMENT THIS WITH CALVERT HOME STUDY COURSES IN THE AFTERNOON. THE HOME STUDY COURSE IS ADMINISTERED AND TAUGHT BY A DEPENDENT OF ONE OF USLO'S OFFICIALS. THERE IS NO SCHOOL AVAILABLE FOR TEENAGE CHILDREN WHO MUST EITHER BE TAUGHT AT HOME OR SENT TO A BOARDING SCHOOL OUTSIDE OF CHINA.

E. HOUSING: AT THE PRESENT WE HAVE ONLY A ONE-BEDROOM APARTMENT AVAILABLE FOR THE NCOIC'S REPLACEMENT.

F. SOME OF OUR WIVES HAVE FOUND THE LACK OF ACTIVITIES NOTED IN B ABOVE; THE DIFFICULTY OF KEEPING PEKING'S DUST AND DIRT AT BAY -- HOUSEHOLD STAFF ARE ASSIGNED BY THE CHINESE AND SOME OF OUR REQUESTS HAVE BEEN PENDING NINE MONTHS; THE NEARLY INSURMOUNTABLE LANGUAGE BARRIER WHICH PREVENTS SHOPPING FROM BEING A PLEASURE; AND THE LACK OF A COMMISSARY, OR CONVENIENCE OF FROZEN FOODS MAKE PEKING A DIFFICULT POST.

JENKINS

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